

POLYALKYLENE GLYCOL VISCOSITY-ENHANCING POLYMERIC FORMULATIONS

Abstract of the Invention

5 Hyaluronic acid and polyalkylene glycol (PAG) based materials have
been found to exhibit a synergistic interaction, in which the viscosity of the
mixture is more than twice as high as the viscosity expected from the viscosity
of the individual components. The mixture otherwise has similar properties to
those of its constituents, and in particular will crosslink to form covalently
crosslinked gels if the PEG carries crosslinkable groups. The viscous
10 formulation adheres well to tissue, and has applications as a tissue sealant and in
tissue coating, prevention of adhesions, cell immobilization, regeneration of
cartilage, bone and other tissue, as well as in controlled delivery of hyaluronic
acid to sites in the body. Related materials exhibit similar effects.